

Section III. REMARKS

It is requested that examination and prosecution of this application proceed on the basis of the specification and claims in the application, as amended hereinabove.

Respectfully submitted,



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Abstract

~~The use~~ Use of a starting solution to form a plurality of filler elements in a composite, ~~wherein the material is taught in this application. The starting solution comprises~~ includes a miscible solution of at least one protein and ~~[[a]]~~ at least one further compound, with the plurality of filler elements being formed from the at least one further compound. ~~Using this~~ This starting solution, enables further materials imparting different properties ~~can~~ to be incorporated into the extruded proteins. ~~Also disclosed is a~~ A method of forming a composite material containing a plurality of filler elements. ~~This method comprises a first step of preparing a starting solution containing at least one protein and at least one further compound and a second step of inducing~~ is described, in which the starting solution is induced to separate into a bulk phase and a minor phase. ~~The~~ Such method can be carried out in an apparatus ~~has~~ having a storage compartment for ~~storing~~ the starting ~~mixture, the starting solution~~ material, and a phase separation compartment. ~~In the phase separation compartment, in which~~ the protein and the further compound of the composite forming mixture are phase separated into a bulk material containing a plurality of filler elements.